

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of offering preferred transport in a network, the method comprising:

receiving a first part of a content transmission in the network;

receiving an indication of transport parameters in the network, the indication being associated with the content of the content transmission;

receiving a second part of the content transmission in the network; and

transmitting the second part of the content transmission in the network in accordance with the transport parameters.

2. (Currently Amended) A transmission device comprising:

a data receiver configured to receive a first part of a content transmission and an indication of transport parameters associated with the content of the content transmission in a network, a service logic for grouping the first part of the content transmission and subsequent parts of the content transmission as a communications flow;

a transmission logic for determining the transmission parameters of the content transmission according to the indication of transport parameters;

a switching apparatus for transporting the first part and subsequent parts of the content transmission in the network to a communications port according to the communications flow determined by the service logic; and

a data transmitter configured to transmit the subsequent parts of the content transmission in the network in conjunction with the communications port in accordance with the transmission parameters determined by the transmission logic.

3. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the first part of the content transmission is a command for a particular content transmission.

4. (New) The method according to claim 3, wherein the command is a request command for a particular content transmission.

5. (New) The method according to claim 4, wherein the command is an HTTP GET request command.

6. (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the command includes the indication of transport parameters, and wherein the indication of transport parameters includes a content tag.

7. (New) The method according to claim 5, wherein the command includes information that is utilized in the return path for the content transmission.

8. (New) The method according to claim 5, further comprising:
receiving a response to the command, wherein the response includes a content tag.

9. (New) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
authenticating the distribution allowed for the content transmission, and
authorizing only the allowed distribution of the content transmission
10. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the transportation parameters include a preferred level of transport.
11. (New) The method according to claim 10, wherein the transport parameters include at least one selected from a group consisting of a predetermined amount of bandwidth, a predetermined quality of service, a predetermined transmission attribute, a predetermined amount of packet loss, and a predetermined amount of jitter.
12. (New) The method according to claim 1, further comprising:
decrypting the indication of transport parameters.
13. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein receiving a first part of the content transmission in the network includes receiving the first part of the content transmission in a node of the network along a transmission path of the content transmission.
14. (New) The method according to claim 1, wherein the content transmission includes application data.

15. (New) The transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the first part of the content transmission is a command for a particular content transmission.

16. (New) The transmission device according to claim 15, wherein the command is a request command for a particular content transmission.

17. (New) The transmission device according to claim 16, wherein the command is an HTTP GET request command.

18. (New) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the command includes the indication of transport parameters, and wherein the indication of transport parameters includes a content tag.

19. (New) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the command identifies a return path for the content transmission.

20. (New) The transmission device according to claim 17, wherein the data receiver is further configured to receive a response to the command, wherein the response includes a content tag.

19. (New) The transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising:

an authentication element configured to authenticate the distribution allowed for the content transmission; and

an authorization element configured to authorize only allowed distribution of the content transmission.

21. (New) The transmission device according to claim 2, wherein the transport parameters include a preferred level of transport.

22. (New) The transmission device according to claim 21, wherein the transport parameters include at least one selected from a group consisting of a predetermined amount of bandwidth, a predetermined quality of service, a predetermined transmission attribute, a predetermined amount of packet loss, and a predetermined amount of jitter.

23. (New) The transmission device according to claim 2, further comprising:
a decryption element configured to decrypt the indication of transport parameters.